

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 1–18 and 42 are in allowable condition.

Claims 2 and 42 have been amended.

Claims 2 and 42 are objected to due to informalities. Claims 2 and 42 have been amended to correct the informalities.

Claims 19–41, 43, and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakano (U.S. Pub. No. 20020004701A1) in view of Edge (U.S. Pub. No. 20030060970A1). For the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

There is no motivation or suggestion for one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to combined Edge with Nakano to arrive at the present invention.

Nakano discloses a method for updating road information in a road database. In Nakano, map information is represented by vector map data, where a point on a map is defined as a node and the road on the map is defined as a link (paragraph 73–75; Figs. 2–5). Edge discloses a method for defining a geographic location in either two or three dimension using a single string of characters.

Since Nakano uses vector data of nodes and links, there is no motivation or need to define location coordinates using a string of characters. Thus, there is no motivation or suggestion to use the Edge character string method to modify the map data elements in Nakano. One skilled in the art at the time the invention would not have combined Edge with Nakano to arrive at the claimed invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections based upon the combination of references is respectfully requested.

With regards to claim 19, none of the references disclose or suggest “an information provider transmits location information using a shape data including a coordinate string” as recited in claim 19.

The Office Action acknowledges Nakano does not transmit location information using shape data including a coordinate string. However, the Office Action refers to figure 1 and paragraph 23 in Edge as disclosing “a system/method for defining location coordinate, in which a plurality of coordinates have been converted to a plurality of character strings” (Office Action, 07/11/2005, page 3).

Edge discloses a process where two or more coordinates for a geographic location are determined and then each of the coordinates are converted into a *character* string (paragraphs 23–25). In Edge, the character string may include one or more characters of numerical digits, alphabetic characters, or other symbols (paragraph 25).

Edge only describes a geographic location expressed as a string of *characters*. Edge does not disclose or teach *shape data* or that shape data includes a string of *coordinates*. Thus, Edge does not disclose or suggest an information provider transmitting location information using shape data including a coordinate string. Therefore, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

With regards to claim 26, none of the references disclose or suggest “an apparatus at an information provider includes a location information converter which converts a location information to be transmitted to a shape data having a coordinate string” as recited in claim 26.

As mentioned previously for claim 19, Nakano and Edge do not disclose or teach shape data or that shape data includes a string of coordinates. Thus, Nakano and Edge fail to disclose or suggest a location information converter which converts location information to be transmitted

to shape data including a coordinate string. Therefore, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

With regards to claim 35, none of the references disclose or suggest “a receiving section for receiving shape data including a coordinate string from an apparatus at an information provider” as recited in claim 35.

As mentioned previously, Nakano and Edge do not disclose or teach shape data or that shape data includes a string of coordinates. Thus, Nakano and Edge fail to disclose or suggest a receiving section for receiving shape data including a coordinate string from an apparatus at an information provider. Therefore, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

With regards to claim 38, none of the references disclose or suggest “said location information includes a shape data having a coordinate string” as recited in claim 38.

As mentioned previously, Nakano and Edge do not disclose or teach shape data or that shape data includes a string of coordinates. Thus, Nakano and Edge fail to disclose or suggest that location information includes shape data having a coordinate string. Therefore, even if combined, the references do not disclose or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Appln. No. 10/075,208
Amdt. dated January 10, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated July 11, 2005

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge the same
to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34409.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: January 10, 2006